

January 17, 2008

The Board of Public Works & Safety met at 4:00 p.m. on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Askren and Higgins attending. Others attending were Chief Beloit; Comm. Maynard; Supt. Givens; Chief Waters; Supt. Gray; Nick Fuelling; Kelly Collins; Kevin Bratton and mother; Darryl Harris and family; Asst. St. Comm. Miller; and Sara Manifold – Mount Vernon Democrat.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented.

Board member Askren moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Askren moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

*****CLAIMS*****

Mayor Tucker stated they will now have the Swearing In of new Police Officer, Kevin Bratton. Mr. Bratton was administered the Oath of Office by Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe and then congratulated by the Board.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now have the reports of the Departments.

Chief Waters stated he would like permission for himself and another employee to attend a seminar at the Wayne Township Fire Department on March 29th, concerning ISO issues. He reminded the Board that ISO refers to their insurance rating. He stated the seminar will be put on by the International Fire Chiefs Association.

Board member Askren moved permission to attend and use the city credit card be given.

Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously. He then asked if there were any questions ?

Board member Higgins questioned the mold problem.

Chief Waters replied an individual from the Street Department will be doing the work, and it appears to only involve one section and it is not going to be a big job.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Supt. Givens reported the pump for the Country Club Lift Station is back from being repaired and will be installed as soon as the weather breaks, hopefully next week. He continued by stating the pipe that runs across a ditch at Brittlebank Park has had a tree fall on it sometime over the Christmas holidays. He contacted Supt. Tate and he believes someone else may possibly own some of the land out there, but regardless, the sewer department does not have a chainsaw to remove the tree. He added it does not appear that the pipe was damaged in any way. He wondered if the Street Department could possibly help them on this ?
Comm. Maynard stated Supt. Givens should have Supt. Tate give him call, they will do what they can to help.

Supt. Givens continued his report by stating his membership in the IWEA is up for renewal at \$25.00, though no claim was prepared for this meeting, he will need to have this paid before the next meeting,

Board member Askren moved renewal be permitted with check being issued before the next meeting. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Supt. Givens then stated he would like to thank the Board for allowing them to attend training in Jasper on the new camera truck. He added they learned a lot about it and the software that is also available for use. He then stated he will be in Indianapolis on the 29th for personal business, but can bring the truck back if it is ready and the Board agrees.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe asked that before he does that, call her office so they can get the truck placed on the city's insurance policy.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if Supt. Moss had a report ?

Supt. Moss replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Comm. Maynard stated American Environmental Corporation has submitted a street cutting permit and check for the cut. He added they will be installing some test wells in the alley behind Roc-A-Bar and on Wood Street, north of 4th Street.

Board member Askren moved cut be permitted. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Comm. Maynard continued by stating there is an erosion problem behind the salt barn, which he found out about on this very first day. He added at this point, it is an emergency as the salt could end up in the creek and then running into the river. He stated he has three quotes for the work, as follows:

1. Sonny Riecken \$120/hour not to exceed \$6,000.00
2. Keith Kuhn & Sons \$100/hour not to exceed \$4,800.00.
3. Russell Excavating \$125/hour not to exceed \$7,000.00

Mayor Tucker stated he feels Comm. Maynard should contact Attorney Higgins on the quotes and then proceed with the lowest, responsive quote.

Board member Askren moved Comm. Maynard contact Attorney Higgins concerning the quotes and then proceed with the lowest, responsive bidder, that of Keith Kuhn & Sons. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Comm. Maynard concluded his report by stating he would like permission for himself and Asst. Comm. Miller to attend the Annual Convention of the ISCA in Angola, August 26 – 28, 2008. He added registration is \$100 each and the hotel will run \$213 each.

Board member Askren moved permission be given as well as use of the city credit card. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously. He then asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Chief Beloit stated he has give the Board CD's with the police department rules, regulations, and SOPs that were adopted October 1, 2007. He added the only change is a slight amendment to the uniform section. He then stated there is a Drug Task Force position that has opened up and only person applied for the position, which is a Sergeant's position, Glenn Boyster. He added normally, there is an evaluation process but since only person applied, he would like permission to waive that process.

Board member Askren asked when he would start ?

Chief Beloit replied February 1, 2008.

Board concurred to suspend the evaluation process.

Chief Beloit continued his report by stating, as the Board is no doubt aware, both local wrecker services are temporarily out of business and he has had numerous calls from companies in and out of state interested in the business. He stated he is hesitant at this time to enter into a contract with anyone and would like to hold off a week or two to see if any local folks can get up and running in that time. Again, he stated, he feels the city should not rush into a contract with anyone.

Board member Askren agreed.

Board concurred.

Chief Beloit concluded his report by stating the main computer that holds all of their records and files, the main one used by their clerk, has crashed. He added he believes they were able to retrieve all of the information before the crash, but they are in the process of seeing what it will take to recover it all. He added the cost of a new hard drive is at least \$250 and a new system could run between \$700 and \$800.00. He stated this is their most used computer.

Board member Higgins asked how old it is ?

Chief Beloit replied it was purchased in 2003.

Board member Higgins replied it is already five years old, and she just replaced one, which cost over \$1,000.00.

Chief Belloat replied they are getting a deal, if they get a new one.

Board member Askren stated he should purchase a new one, if need be, and use his best judgment, while also watching the money.

Board agreed.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Supt. Gray stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated on the Legal portion of the Agenda is signing Leas documents related to the camera truck.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe stated she just received this information from Attorney Higgins at 3:30 this afternoon, but she advised that everything looked fine, it was ready for approval, and was actually a little bit less than they had anticipated. She added there may be additional paperwork to follow.

Board member Askren moved Mayor Tucker be authorized to sign the lease and any paperwork coming in related to the lease, before the next meeting. Seconded by Board member Higgins Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated in the Audience, is Kelly Collins.

Mr. Collins stated on April 13th (rain date April 27th) they would like permission to block Main Street from 3rd to 4th and 3rd Street from Main to Walnut to hold a tractor show. He added he would also like to check on using the electric poles at the courthouse for electricity for concessions.

Nick Fuelling stated the tractors will be coming in on trailers and they would like to utilize the area at the riverfront where the boaters park their trailers. He added this is a non money making event and any made that is made will be donated to a local church. He added the event is free and they will be giving away trophies, similar to the car shows that have been held in the past. He then stated he is not anticipating many tractors.

Mr. Collins stated they will also be accepting donations, and they will be given to the Relay for Life.

Board member Askren questioned insurance ?

Mr. Fuelling replied they are going to have folks sign a waiver, they can't get a certificate as they have no money.

Board member Higgins stated they will need to go before the County for permission to use the electricity.

Mr. Fuelling stated they may also need to have the coliseum opened for bathroom facilities.

Mayor Tucker added they will need to go before the County Commissioners for that permission. He then questioned the hours?

Mr. Collins replied 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Mayor Tucker stated the Board wants to encourage these kinds of activities, but he is concerned about the insurance.

Clerk-Treasurer Wolfe suggested they contact Attorney Higgins and bring her in on this.

Board member Askren moved permission to block the streets be given, pending the green light from Attorney Higgins on the insurance situation. Seconded by Board member Higgins. Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously; and added he will get back with Mr. Collins and Mr. Fuelling.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

Mr. Darryl Harris stated he lives at 6th and Canal and has had a sewer back up issue for some time now. He stated he was at the last meeting and was told the city was taking bids on having a line run.

Supt. Givens replied Mr. Harris was not at the last meeting, but due to the holidays, he has not been able to get anyone out to give him an estimate. He stated he did have two gentlemen look at it today and one on Monday. He added he has also received a verbal quote over the phone from one man, which he feels is a good price. He stated the project will consist of running an 80' sewer pipe, digging up the alley, and hauling and clean up, with Mr. Harris just having to tie in to the line.

Mr. Fuelling and Mr. Collins left the meeting.

Supt. Givens reminded the Board Mr. Harris is tied into a combination sewer.

Mr. Harris stated he is agreeable to the project.

Supt. Givens stated he feels this is a low proposal but it is up to the Board whether they want to jump on it or wait.

Mayor Tucker stated he feels Supt. Givens should run this by Attorney Higgins and have check the legal rights in this case of both the city and Mr. Harris. He then stated it appears to be a very doable project, but again, he should get with Attorney Higgins.

Supt. Givens replied he will do that, as this is a new situation.

Board member Higgins asked if this is an isolated case ?

Supt. Givens replied yes, it only affects him.

Asst. St. Comm. Miller and Chief Waters left the meeting.

Board member Askren moved Supt. Givens proceed with the project before the next meeting, pending approval of Attorney Higgins, and using the lowest responsible quote.

Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else wished to address the Board

There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated he needs to address the Department Heads about being fiscally responsible. He added the city has received 80% of their tax money, which is all they will receive no until a settlement is reached, possibly in April. He added Governor Daniels also informed the Dept. of

Local Gov. Finance to not approve any budgets submitted that were over 3%, the city submitted theirs at 4 ½%, not knowing this when their budgets were prepared. So, he stated, they are already starting off in the hole. He is just asking that they but what they need, but be fiscally responsible. With that being said, he stated if there were no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Askren moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Higgins. Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

John Tucker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Cristi L. Wolfe
Clerk-Treasurer